REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Prior to examination, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment in which the specification (to incorporate the parent and priority applications by reference) and abstract have been amended to correct minor informalities.

Claims 1-9 are pending herein. Applicants have amended claims 6 through 8 to eliminate multiple dependent claims. No new matter has been added. Applicants believe the case is now in condition for examination.

If the Examiner believes that contact with applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, he is herein requested to call applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

March 10, 2004

SPB/eav

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